

Minutes of the Centerville City Trails Committee meeting held Thursday, July 15, 2021 at 8:00 p.m. at the Centerville City Conference Room, 250 North Main Street, Centerville, Utah.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Eric Johnson
Matt Johnson
Jamison Pexton
Sherrae Phelps
Mikael Remington, Chair
Del Ruesch

STAFF PRESENT

Gina Hirst, City Council
George McEwan, City Council Liaison
Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

VISITORS

Mitzi Gray
Bob Gray
Gina Hirst
Al Phelps

WELCOME

Chair Mikael Remington introduced Gina Hirst who is running for City Council. He also acknowledged Bob and Mitzi Gray for their efforts in helping with trail maintenance on the hillside trails.

TRAIL COMMITTEE MEMBER ROLES

Chair Mikael Remington explained over the years, there have been meetings to accomplish goals, but the Committee needs to make specific assignments for each member of the Trails Committee. The Committee discussed various action items that need to take place, and agreed on the following assignments:

- Bob Gary – Community Relations (Bob will write his own job description).
- Mikael Remington – Forest Service Coordinator
- Bob and Mitzi Gray – Trail Chiefs
- Al Phelps – Parrish Trail Coordinator
- Sherrae Phelps – Social Media Coordinator
- Eric Johnson – Volunteer Coordinator for Trail Maintenance
- Mitzi Gray – Liaison to the City Council – other Committee members will also coordinate giving reports on activities to the City Council.
- Jamison Pexton – Liaison for volunteers from local bike teams.

PLAN/GOALS FOR REMAINDER OF THE YEAR

Sherrae Phelps reported she talked with the assistant manager of REI about obtaining donations for trail activities from REI. The assistant manager told her REI is willing to donate money, but they want to see a yearly plan of what the Committee wants to do with the money. The Committee discussed projects they could use money for, such as upgrading the Deuel Creek South Trail where there has been erosion. The parking area could be expanded at this trailhead also. Money could be used to hire a surveyor for the south side of Bernard Canyon to improve the trail at this location.

A message will be sent out on the Trails Committee Facebook page for citizens who would like to give their ideas on improvements that could be made. Committee members were asked to document what they would like to see happen on Forest Service property, and give their ideas to Sherrae Phelps.

Chair Remington said there are 22,000 registered high school mountain bike team members in the United States. This is a 40 percent increase over last year. Viewmont has a mountain bike team of 70 members. These young people need trails to ride their bikes, and the mountain trails need to be improved for them to be able to have a place to ride. Chair Remington asked Committee members to send him an email of goals they would like to see happen for the next five years before the next meeting on August 19th.

TRAIL MAINTENANCE

Sherrae Phelps reported trail maintenance to finish the Sunset Trail is scheduled for August 5th, at 7:30 p.m. Al Phelps suggested a small trailer be purchased for the Trails Committee that would store picks, shovels, fire extinguishers, etc., to be used for trail maintenance projects. The trailer could be stored next to the CERT trailer at City Hall. The trailer could be used by two or three Committee members when they have time to work on a trail project on short notice. Chair Remington explained the Community Foundation is operated by the City, and John Hollingshead is the Chair. He is responsible for fundraising activities, and Mayor Wilkinson is also on the Community Foundation. The Committee discussed the possibility of the Community Foundation raising funds for the Trails Committee to obtain a small trailer.

HILLSIDE DEVELOPMENT

Al Phelps discussed a document he has created on the hillside development that he would like the Trails Committee to present to the City Council with their signatures. Chair Remington explained the Trails Committee is meant to be an advisory committee to the City Council on projects that can be done to enhance the hillside for the community. Mr. Phelps said his document recommends the Centerville foothills remain open for the citizens wellbeing, and for their physical health and environmental integrity.

1 He recommends the hillside remain in the Agricultural Zone, and the City Council should ask for
2 easements above 4,600 feet to remain open space. If in the future development should occur above
3 4,600 feet, access should remain at every canyon with flowing water, and parking for cars and
4 horse trailers. Public access roads to the mountains should not be allowed to become private roads
5 or be in gated communities. There should be no development allowed above 5,000 feet elevation.
6

7 Mr. Phelps also recommends that Centerville City create a job that would employ trail
8 maintenance employees who would be given competitive wages. If a full-time employee cannot
9 be hired, then perhaps a part-time trail maintenance employee could be hired. This employee would
10 apply for grants, organize monthly projects for the trails, and patrol the trails for campsites which
11 are a fire hazard on the hillside. This employee could also organize 5k and 10k races and mountain
12 biking events. He would like to see the City Council pursue easements that will prohibit any
13 development above 5,000 feet. A presentation will be given to the City Council at their meeting in
14 August.
15

16 Councilmember George McEwan explained the Ferguson Group in Washington, D.C. is
17 an advocacy organization that helps communities obtain federal grants for projects to enhance
18 communities, such as the water tank on the east side of Centerville. He told the Trails Committee
19 to make a packet for the City Council to review, and then Brant Hanson, City Manager, will pursue
20 grants with the Ferguson Group.
21

22 **OPEN POSITION FOR NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER**

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24 There is an open position on the Trails Committee, and Mitzi Gray volunteered to serve on
25 the Committee.
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27 **MINUTES REVIEW AND APPROVAL**

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29 Minutes of the June 17, 2021 meeting were reviewed. Chair Mikael Remington made a
30 **motion** to approve the minutes as amended. Matt Johnson seconded the motion, which was passed
31 by unanimous vote (6-0).
32

33 **NEXT MEETING**

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35 The next Trails Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, August 19, 2021 at 8:00 p.m.
36 in the Conference Room at City Hall.
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38 **ADJOURN**

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40 At 9:05 p.m., Chair Mikael Remington made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting. Matt
41 Johnson seconded the motion, which was passed by unanimous vote (6-0).

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Jennifer Hansen
Jennifer Hansen, City Recorder

8/19/21
Date Approved

Connie Larson
Connie Larson, Recording Secretary

